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New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park News Release

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NPS Centennial Band Hits the Road with New Orleans Jazz

NEW ORLEANS, LA.: As the National Park Service celebrates its centennial year, New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park brings the party to the nation with a tour by its NPS Centennial Band. The band will hit the road in July to share the music of New Orleans and the National Park Service and provide inspiration to audiences through the country to #FindYourPark. More information about the park is available at www.nps.gov/jazz or at 504-589-4841.

The NPS Centennial Band features Park Rangers Matt Hampsey, Jon Beebe, and Bud Adams Holmes from New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park along with New Orleans musicians. Their music includes traditional New Orleans jazz and rhythm and blues, selections from the Great American Songbook, and original compositions written by Park Ranger Jeff Wolin that highlight National Park Service sites, nature, culture, and history. Along with its free, family-friendly concerts in New Orleans and other locations, the band also provides music clinics, educational programs on music and jazz history, and programs that highlight the musical traditions of New Orleans and south Louisiana.

Stops on the July tour include:

- Shiloh National Military Park (Tennessee) on Saturday, July 2
- Vicksburg National Military Park (Mississippi) on Sunday, July 3
- Natchez National Historical Park (Mississippi) on Monday, July 4
- Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park (Maryland) on Thursday, July 14
- Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site (New Hampshire) on Sunday, July 17
- Fort Stanwix National Monument (New York) on Friday-Saturday, July 29-30

“We’re really looking forward to sharing the music of New Orleans and of the National Park Service with people across the country,” said Matt Hampsey, supervisory park ranger and band member. “The mission of the park is share the history of jazz, and there’s no better way to do that than by playing music. As a bonus we get to celebrate the centennial of the National Park Service, and we plan to have Junior Rangers of all ages singing along to our special centennial tunes.”

New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park is managed by the National Park Service and tells the story of the people and places that helped shape the birth and development of jazz in New Orleans. The free visitor center is located at 916 North Peters Street in New Orleans and is open Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (closed on federal holidays and on Mardi Gras). The center features programs and musical performances that are free and open to the public. Call 504-589-4841 or visit www.nps.gov/jazz for more information.

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